

Anthony Court HUGGETT
Appl. No. 10/569,969
November 12, 2010
Response to Non Final Office Action May 12, 2010

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 19. (Cancelled)
20. (Currently Amended) A collapsible container comprising:
a plurality of upper panels, and
a bottom panel,
each panel having a body and an elongate tubular member along an edge all edges of the body;
the tubular member having at least one cut-away section to form an interlocking formation;
the bottom panel having a plurality of reinforced downwardly protruding supports for raising up the bottom panel and thereby the collapsible container; and
at least one interlocking formation on the bottom panel engaging an interlocking formation on at least one upper panel.
21. (Currently Amended) A-The collapsible container according to claim 20, wherein the interlocking formations on each panel are alternating tenon and mortise formations.
22. (Currently Amended) A-The collapsible container according to claim 21, wherein the tenons and mortises of adjacent panels are staggered so as to enable a tenon of a first panel to engage a mortise provided in an adjacent panel.
23. (Currently Amended) A-The collapsible container according to claim 22, wherein the mortises are shaped so that a tenon is received therein in an arrangement wherein the received tenon is substantially but not precisely axially aligned with an adjacent tenon.

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24. (Currently Amended) ~~A-~~The collapsible container according to claim 21 wherein an engagement member is receivable through a passage formed by adjacent tenons when panels are engaged.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A-~~The collapsible container according to claim 24 wherein the engagement member is in the form of a solid rod.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A-~~The collapsible container according to claim 24 wherein the engagement member is in the form of a hollow tubular cylinder.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) ~~A-~~The collapsible container according to claim ~~27-20~~ wherein the ~~support structures~~ supports are include a plurality of stacked reinforced panels including at least one L-shaped channel section for supporting the stacked reinforced panels, each reinforced panel comprising two outer laminations and a reinforced inner structure and wherein the support structures are secured to a bottom panel of the collapsible container.

29. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein the interlocking formations of adjacent panels are arranged to be releasably interlockable.

30. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein the cut-away section in the tubular member of a panel is a section where a segment of the tubular member has been removed.

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31. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein the cut-away section of a panel defines a mortise adjacent a tenon formed by the tubular member where it is not cut-away.

32. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein each panel includes a securing cover for securing the tubular member to the body of the panel, the securing cover comprising a sheet of pliable material that is wrapped around the tubular member, with opposite ends of the sheet being secured to opposite sides of the body of the panel.

33. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein the body of a panel is made from reinforced material that comprises two outer laminations and an inner reinforcing structure.

34. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 33 wherein the outer laminations at least partially overlies the tubular section when secured to the edge of the panel.

35. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 33 wherein the inner reinforcing structure comprises a honeycomb structure.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein the tubular members are provided on ends of the edges of a panel.

38. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein the tubular members are provided on sides of the edges of a panel.

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39. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein the body of a panel is substantially rectangular.

40. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein the body and tubular members of a panel are made from cardboard.

41. (Currently Amended) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein ~~the container includes a plurality of support structures, each support structure having includes~~ a plurality of reinforced ~~support~~ panels stacked on top of one another, and being secured in a stacked position.

42. (Currently Amended) The collapsible container of claim 41 wherein each support ~~structure~~ includes at least one L-shaped channel section for supporting the stacked reinforced panels.

43. (Currently Amended) The collapsible container of claim 42 wherein each support ~~structure~~ includes two mirrored L-shaped channel sections for supporting the stacked reinforced panels.

44. (Currently Amended) The collapsible container of claim 41 wherein each reinforced ~~support~~ panel comprises two outer laminations and a reinforced inner structure.

45. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container according to claim 44 wherein the outer laminations are made from cardboard or craft paper.

46. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container according to claim 44 wherein the reinforced inner structure comprises honeycomb structured cardboard or craft paper.

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47. (Previously Presented) The collapsible container according to claim 44 wherein the reinforced inner structure comprises tubular cardboard sections.